

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00639 172329Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----172335 085267 /14
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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2503

S E C R E T OTTAWA 0639

EXDIS

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FOR EUR/CAN AMBASSADOR ENDERS ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, OCON, MILI, AWACS, CAN
SUBJECT: NATO AEW: IMPACT ON NATO AEW OF POSSIBLE REVISION IN
US E-3A FORCE

REF: STATE 36127

1. FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED REPLY TO REFTEL.
2. WITH RESPECT TO OPTION CONTAINED PARA 1A REFTEL, WE
CONCUR WITH COMMENT SET FORTH PARA 5 REFTEL. WE THINK
GOC WOULD FULLY UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE NEED FOR PRO-
DUCTION STRETCH OUT AND WOULD NOT TABLE ANY STRONG OB-
JECTIONS TO REDUCED BUY IN FY 78.
3. OPTION CONTAINED PARA 1.B., HOWEVER, WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY
BE UNACCEPTABLE TO CANADIANS. ONE OF GOC'S EARLY OBJEC-
TIONS TO U.S. E-3A PROGRAM WAS THAT SMALLER FORCE DEDI-
CATED TO NORAD ROLE WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO FULFILL
TOTAL NORAD REQUIREMENTS UNDER INCREASED THREAT CONDITIONS.
CANADIANS ALSO VOICED CONCERN IN EARLY STAGES OF

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THESE NEGOTIATIONS OVER PRIORITIES THAT WOULD BE AS-
SIGNED TO US E-3A FORCE BY JCS; I.E., WITH ONLY 19 AIR-
CRAFT IN FORCE, HOW MANY WOULD BE DEDICATED TO NORAD
AND HOW MANY WOULD BE INVOLVED IN PROTECTION OF CANA-
DIAN SOVEREIGNTY OR CANADIAN AIR SPACE. IN MY VIEW,
TERMINATION OF PROGRAM AT 19 AIRCRAFT WOULD REQUIRE
COMPLETE RE-NEGOTIATION WITH CANADIANS ON PARTICIPA-

TION IN BOTH NATO AEW AND U.S. AEW, WITH
OUTCOME UNCERTAIN. AGREEMENT WITH CANADA ON US AEW
PROGRAM HAS ONLY RECENTLY BEEN ACHIEVED AND THIS AGREE-
MENT IS BASED ON PLANNED 34 AIRCRAFT PROGRAM.
DUEMLING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
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